

# Basic Knots

## Coasters Harbor Navy Yacht Club

[www.nwc.navy.mil/chnyc](http://www.nwc.navy.mil/chnyc)

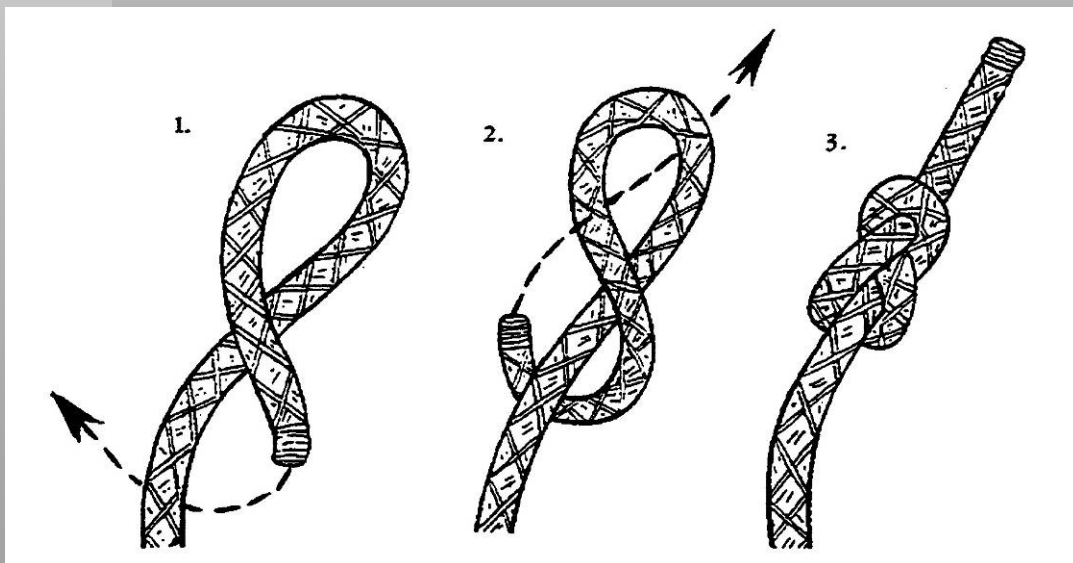


# Good Knots

- **Good knots should**
  - Have good holding power
  - Untie easily
- **These few should meet most needs**
  - Figure 8
  - Clove hitch
  - Two half hitches
  - Bowline
  - Sheet bend
  - Square
  - Cleat hitch

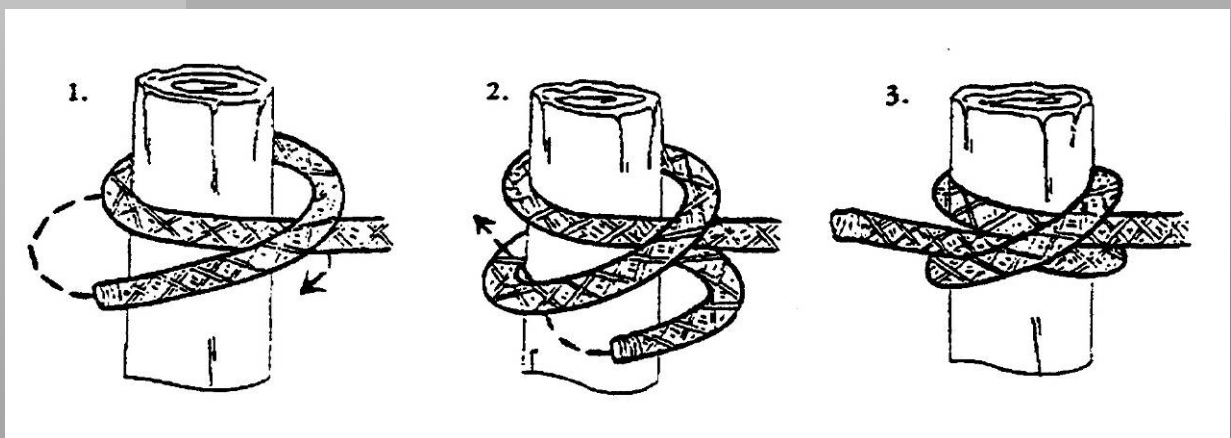
# Figure 8

- Also called a stopper knot
- Tie at end of the line to keep line from slipping through a fitting or block
- Tied on the end of jib sheets



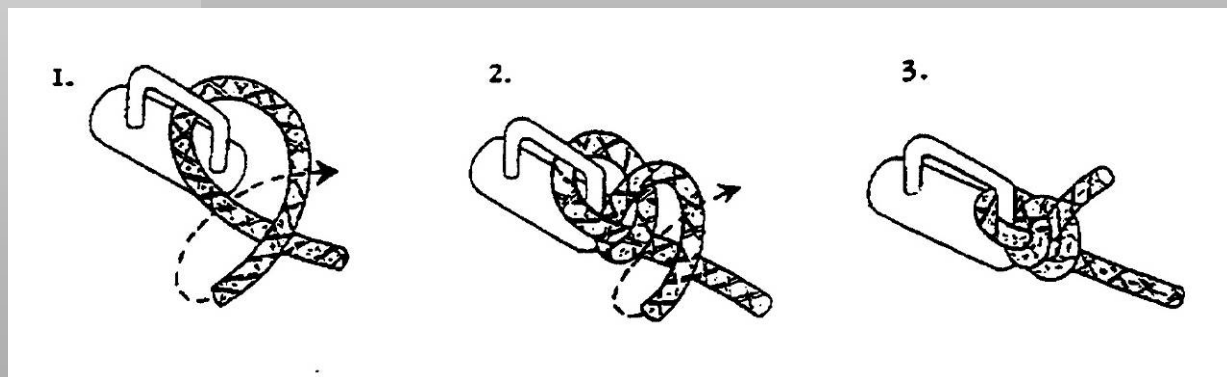
# Clove Hitch

- Tie a line to a solid object
- Not very secure – easily untied
  - Tie extra half hitch
- Can be used to secure the tiller



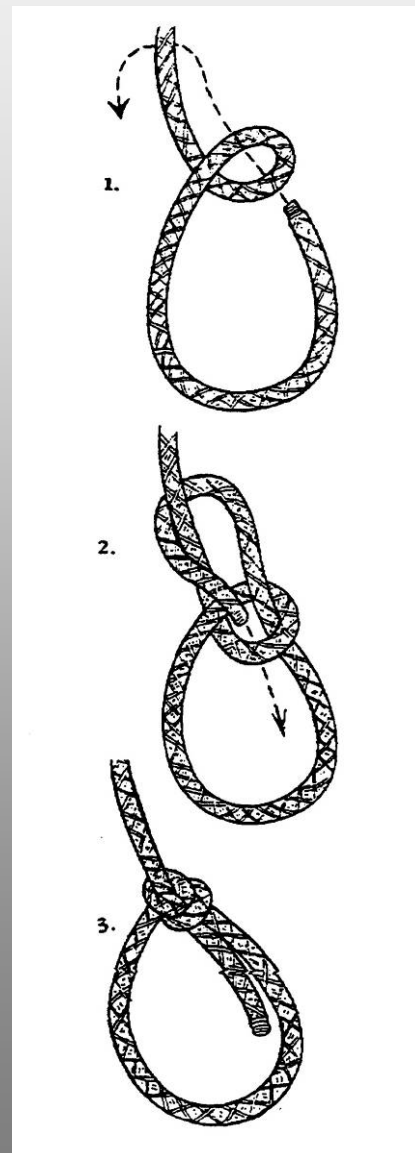
# Two Half Hitches

- **Makes a loop to secure a line to an object.**



# Bowline

- **Non-slipping loop into the end of a line**
- **More secure under pressure but easy to untie**
- **Used to tie anchor rode the mast or around waist for rescue hoist**



# Sheet Bend

- **Similar to a bowline**
- **Secure**
- **Easy to untie**
- **Used to tie two lines together**
  - **Works well on different sized lines**



# Square Knot

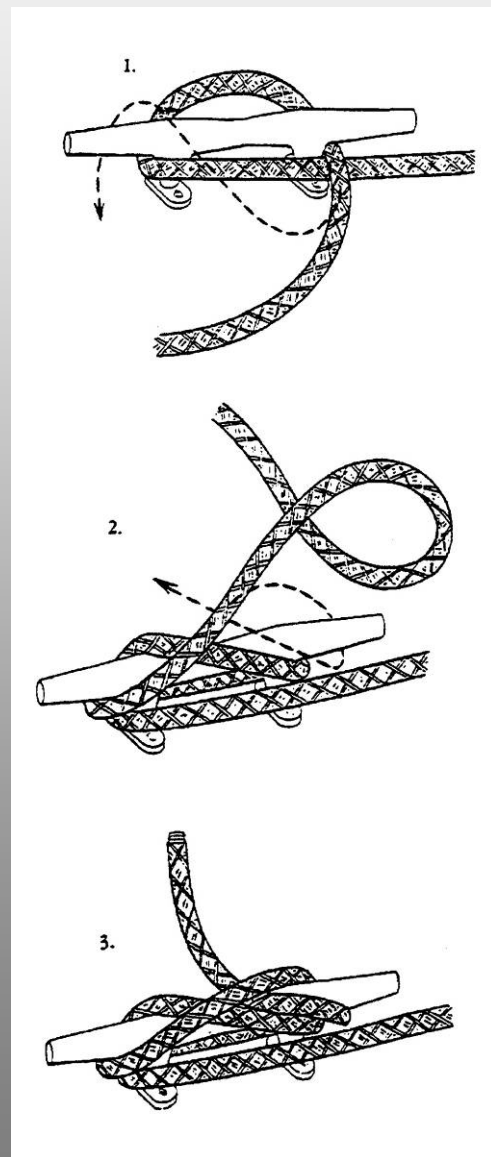
- Also called reef knot
- Secure
- Hard to untie
- Not for tying two lines together
- Used only for lashing sails





# Cleat Hitch

- Tie line to a horn cleat
- Around cleat clockwise
  - Righty tighty
  - Lefty loosey
- All the way around before cross
- Finish with locking half hitch
- Dock lines and halyards

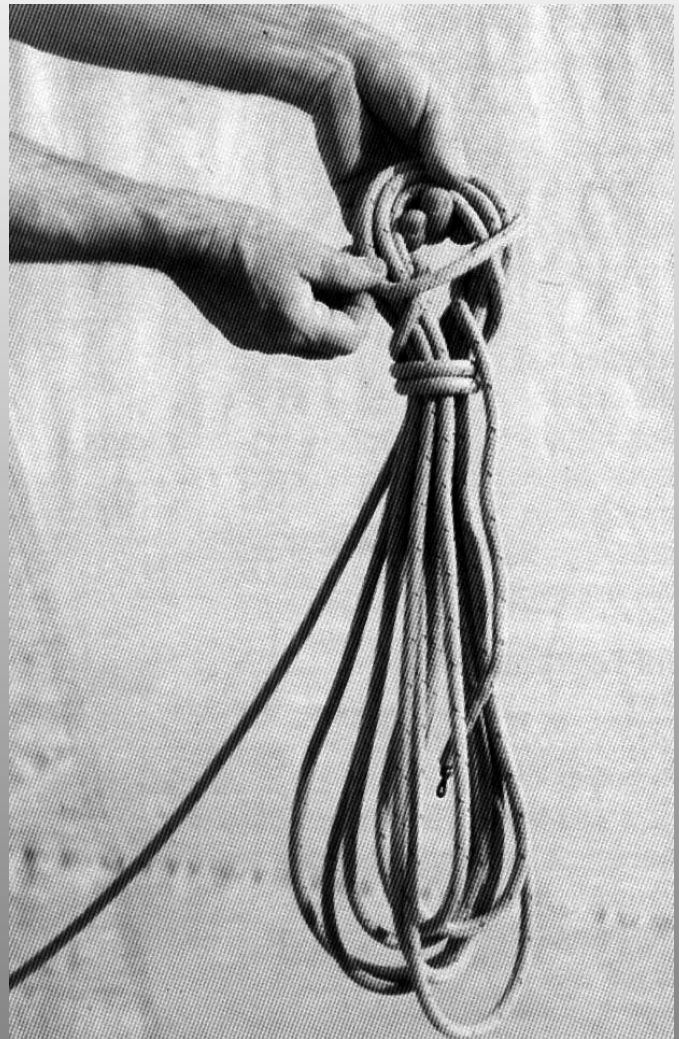


# Line Composition

- **Multiple twisted strands**
- **Nylon**
  - Very strong
  - Stretches under load
  - Rough on hands
- **Dacron**
  - Strong
  - Stretches less than nylon
- **Double braided cover**  
**easier on hands**
  - Sailing gloves

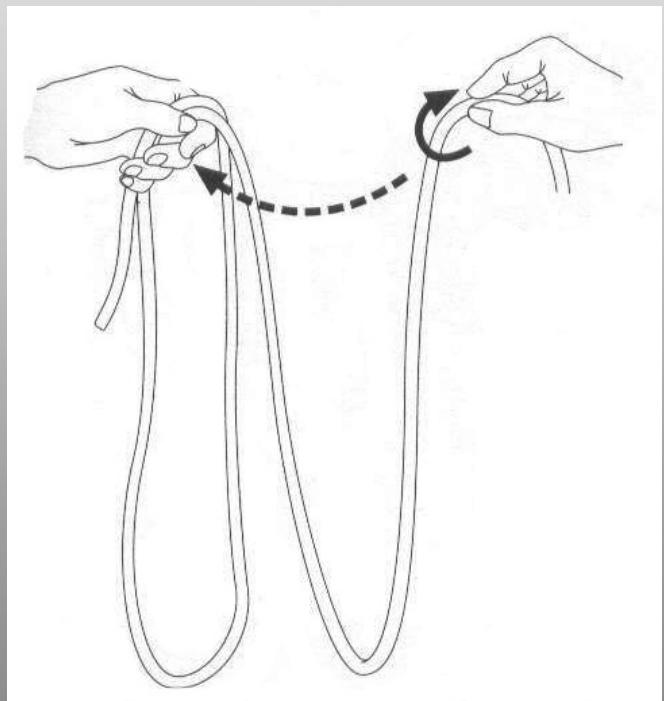
# Line Handling

- **Not left in tangled pile**
- **Always ready for use or release**
- **Keep it neatly coiled**



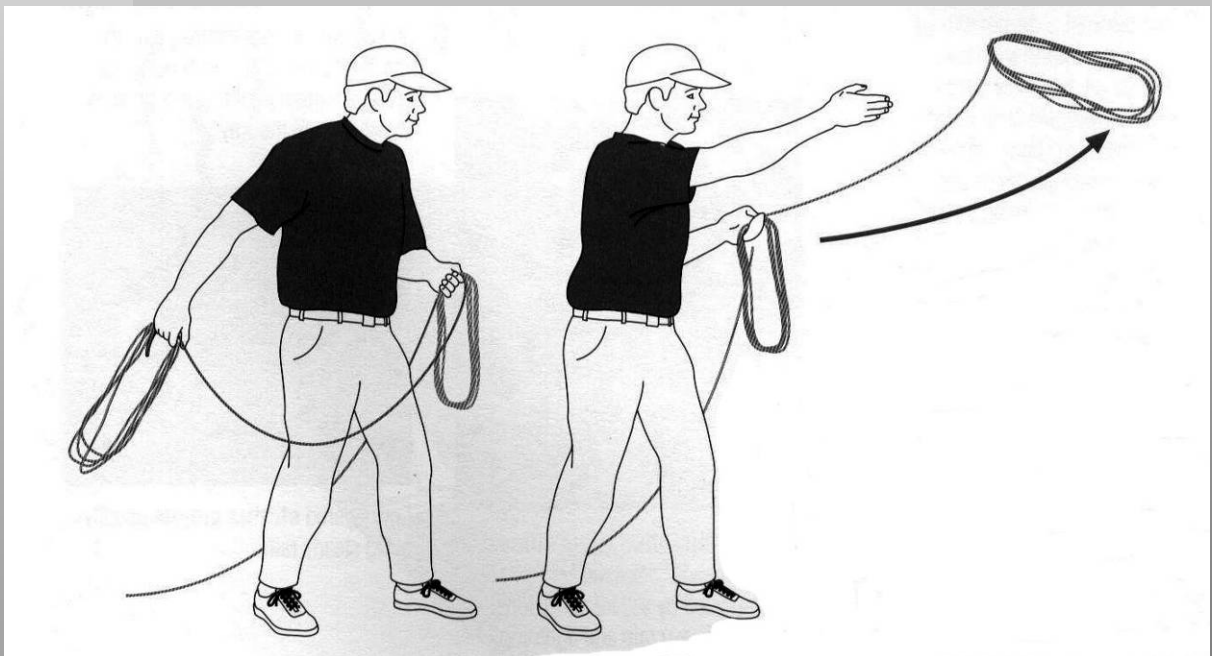
# To Coil a Line

- **Make a loop which is lead to the other hand**
- **Hold loops previously coiled**
- **Helps to twist line slightly to avoid kinks and twists**



# Heaving a Line

- **One end is secured**
- **Half of line in throwing hand**
- **Swing and throw underhand**
- **Remainder runs free**



# On the Float or Pier

